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Human Rights Council
Thirty-ninth session
10-28 September 2018
Agenda item 2
Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

Joint written statement* submitted by the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), the International-Lawyers.Org and the United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, International Educational Development, Inc. and the World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the roster

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[23 August 2018]

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1814411

Please recycle

Burundians facing Human Rights Violations - Acts of Violence, Intimidation and Threats by Imbonerakure**

The political, humanitarian and human rights crisis in Burundi began in 2015 after President Pierre Nkurunziza sought a third term in the 2015 presidential elections, which consequently sparked protests and widespread demonstrations as the decision was deemed unconstitutional by many including the Constitutional court vice-president, Sylvere Nimpagaritse and his colleagues who also claim that they were threatened and put under pressure to take a different stance. Since, there have been numerous reports by various United Nations bodies, several non-governmental organisations, as well as on the ground information and witness-testimony that have reported serious human rights violations, atrocities, and abuses in connection with or attributed to the government of Burundi perpetrated against civilians.

This statement is concerned with the human rights situation of Burundians who have fled since the crisis began in 2015 and the serious human rights violations, atrocities and abuses against civilians, especially those committed by the Youth Wing of the ruling party, the National Council for the Defence of Democracy-Forces for Defence and Democracy (Conseil National pour la Défense de la démocratie-Forces de défense et de la démocratie CNDD-FDD), the Imbonerakure. This statement is also concerned about the plight of Burundian refugees in neighbouring countries and possible solutions to the crisis along with recommendations to relevant stakeholders.

Acts of intimidation, threats and force by Imbonerakure

The Imbonerakure are the Youth Wing of the current ruling party CNDD-FDD and was formed and has been active since 2010.1 Their name means "Those Who See Far" in Kirundi and are said to consist of demobilized former rebels (18-39 years old) and are engaged in political and other activities across the country. However, several sources have reported various "acts of violence" committed by them (as early as 2012) including; beatings and injuries, extrajudicial killings, banditry, and political killings.2

In Burundi's Third Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Cycle OHCHR-Burundi included the Imbonerakure as one of the groups that committed most of the human rights violations in Burundi, including "summary executions, enforced disappearances, torture and the alleged sexual violence". 3 In 2017 the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein acknowledged the dangerous threat of the Imbonerakure as he strongly condemned their "grotesque rape chants" during rallies in Burundi where they made repeated calls to impregnate or kill party opponents. It should be noted that this was not a one-time occurrence and, on several occasions, similar chants inciting rape and violence towards opponents have been reported. Despite the cause for alarm by the High Commissioner in April 2017 and condemnation by the Human Rights Council at its Thirty-Sixth Regular Session in (September 2017)4 reports of on-going violations and rights abuses by the Imbonerakure continue to surface.

In 2018, reports have revealed numerous instances where certain groups of people were forced by the Imbonerakure to attend rallies and events of the current ruling party. For instance, on May 4th 2018, vendors in the Makamba Province were ordered to close down their malls and shops thus leaving the markets empty and were forced to attend a CNDD-FDD party meeting/campaign. In another case, an elected official claimed that activists were prevented from attending a meeting on May 3rd and in another region, they dispossessed IDs and registration papers from people attending a meeting by the opposing party. Worse still, in that same month supporters of another opposition party claimed the Imbonerakure intimidated them with death threats and others were violently attacked, beaten and abused.

In addition to other claims and reports that they make arrests including arbitrary arrests, commit torture and expulsions it is clear that politicians and ordinary citizens have been pushed to join the ruling party by the Imbonerakure. These serious violations and rights abuses were also recently of great concern especially leading up to the voting of the new referendum in May 2018. Clearly not enough was done to not only limit and phase out the violations but also in terms of holding those responsible to account.

It should be noted that in recent Human Rights Council sessions concerning the human rights situation in Burundi, the Commission of Inquiry (COI) reported on such crimes which met strong opposition by the representatives of the

[1] https://www.trackingterrorism.org/group/imbonerakure.
[2] Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada - https://www.ecoi.net/en/document/1066052.html.
[3] https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G17/339/27/PDF/G1733927.pdf?OpenElement.
[4] 'Situation of Human Rights in Burundi' - A/HRC/36/L.9/Rev.1.

Burundi government and they continuously refuse entry to the COI to investigate the reality on the ground. If the information is not as accurate and witness testimony of refugees is not accepted by the government of Burundi then the only remaining solution is to allow access and entry of the COI to conduct full and extensive investigations. The non-cooperation by the government, however, suggests that they are not interested or are reluctant or unwilling to welcome comprehensive on-the-ground reports.

Despite numerous reports that date back to 2015 the government of Burundi has not taken serious measures to investigate and ensure accountability for the numerous human rights violations and abuses committed by Imbonerakure. Moreover, the government also denied allegations of repression concerning acts of intimidation regarding the referendum vote and claimed the vote was "free and fair". Such denial should be of the utmost concern as it ultimately means absolutely nothing will be done thus generating a culture of impunity that leaves no justice for the victims. Furthermore, considering the longevity of terrorizing and scare tactics few voters of the opposing parties are willing to vote due to fear. On the other hand, many voters who support the ruling power would attend and vote for the referendum favouring the ruling party.5

Burundian refugees

Since April 2015, there are approximately 294,778 Burundian refugees.6 In addition to fleeing their homes there have been recent reports that illustrate appalling conditions in some of the countries where they now temporarily reside. For instance, in Western Tanzania Burundian refugees (along with Congolese refugees) are restricted with regards to freedom of movement and at times are not even allowed to set foot outside their makeshift camps. Additionally, the Tanzanian government instituted a law that prohibits refugees in the country from taking any sort of local job or menial work. Some claim that it is because of this law that their freedom of movement is restricted and are thus suffering other consequences as a result.

Dialogue towards peace

It has been three years since talks were set up by the East African Community (EAC) to initiate dialogue towards peace but there have been no tangible results to date. Reports indicated that non-cooperation by the Burundian government has been the major obstacle towards beginning the talks.7

In late 2015, before these atrocities took place and claimed the lives of thousands of innocent people, displaced hundreds of thousands, and also destroyed people's sources of livelihoods including their homes, talks had already been proposed as a step towards dialogue for peace. Three dialogue sessions had been organised by EAC for May 2016, February 2017, and November/December 2017 but each was suspended due to the unavailability of the Burundian government.

These mediation efforts must not go to waste and rather better and more practical means must be put in place to ensure effective and productive dialogue sessions towards ensuring a process for peace in Burundi. This would ultimately mean that the illegal activities carried out by Imbonerakure must immediately cease and the right to freedom of opinion and expression must be promoted and protected.

Conclusion

There is deep concern over the Imbonerakure, the Youth League of the ruling party, who according to UN reports "harass, control, and intimidate the population" and have been accused of conducting "police actions outside the legal framework" including other forced actions regarding the 2020 elections and its campaigns.8 Such tactics should be strongly condemned by the ruling party as these actions cannot be said to be in line of peace-building and conflict resolution.

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[5] http://www.africanews.com/2018/05/17/burundi-to-vote-in-referendum-that-could-let-president-hold-power-to-2034/.

[6] http://data.unhcr.org/burundi/regional.php.

[7] http://refugee-rights.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/IRRI-Burundi-report-final-ENG-July-2018.pdf.

[8] http://www.rfi.fr/afrique/20180628-commission-enquete-burundi-imbonerakure.

Recommendations:

Burundian Government:

- *Allow* the UN Commission of Inquiry inside Burundi to conduct investigations on human rights violations,
- *Hold* Imbonerakure to account for any and all of its illegal activities and violations, provide them with human rights training and ensure that their actions are within human rights law.

East African Community and Support Teams for Talks

- *Open* political and public space for dialogue,
- *Reinstitute* talks towards a dialogue for peace, to this end constructively *engage* with former Tanzanian President Mkapa, local communities, and refugees and
- *ensure* the full and effective participation of women, civil society organisations, women's rights groups, grass roots organisations, refugee and minority groups, and youth groups,
- *Ensure* regional actors listen to the voices of Burundians including refugees and opposition leaders in exile.

Human Rights Council

- *Strongly urge* the government of Burundi to engage in good faith with the East African Community (EAC) with regards to a dialogue towards peace,
- *Provide* technical assistance and capacity building for the EAC facilitation team and for constructive dialogue with the government of Burundi,
- *Support and allocate* appropriate bodies and stakeholders towards providing all necessary technical and financial assistance for the EAC in efforts to build solidarity and immediately re-institute talks for dialogue and implementing peaceful measures in Burundi.

**Geneva International Centre for Justice (GICJ), The Arab Lawyers Association-UK, Human Rights Defenders (HRD), Association of Humanitarian Lawyers (AHL), NGOs without consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.

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Agenda item 2
Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

Written statement* submitted by the Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

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Please recycle

Right to Peace: calling for Ministries of Peace all around the Word

Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23) welcomes the OHCHR Summary report on the Intersessional workshop on the right to peace (A/HRC/39/31).

The Intersessional workshop on the right to peace represented a valuable opportunity to discuss the implementation of the right to peace and make progress in the achievement of lasting and sustainable peace.

However, we regret that there was a low participation by Member States, civil society organizations and other stakeholders and thus that the significance and the potential of such an important event was partly missed.

Indeed, many interesting and constructive ideas emerged during the discussion, in particular regarding means to build peace within and between societies, sustainable measures to implement the Declaration on the Right to Peace, and the universal task of educating for peace. It is hence a pity that few stakeholders were present to listen to the speakers, reflect on their words and use their suggestions as starting points for fruitful national and international debates, including within the HRC framework, on how to achieve peace and to implement the right to peace.

Since its inception, APG23 has been committed to promoting the respect for human rights and right to peace through the promotion of a culture of peace and nonviolence. APG23 participated in the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Working Group on right to peace and actively contributed in the process for the recognition of the human right to peace that culminated with the adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration on the Right to Peace in December 2016 (A/RES/71/189). We continue now to be seized of the implementation of such a fundamental right.

As pointed out during the Intersessional workshop by Ms. Kate Gilmore, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, the 2016 Declaration on the Right to Peace underscored a longed-for universal aspiration and goal: the achievement of lasting and sustainable peace.

Echoing her words, this is the right moment to deal with the issue of peace and the implementation of the right to peace. Since peace and human rights are inextricably intertwined and mutually reinforcing, the fulfilment of human rights is the best path towards conflict prevention and peace. It is not by chance that the theme of this year International Day of Peace is "The Right to Peace - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70". The Human Rights Council can and should play a leading role in the process towards peace, especially in the year of the UDHR's 70th Anniversary.

It is necessary to ensure the right of everyone to enjoy peace and make peace a reality.

Peace is not only the absence of armed conflict nor solely a matter of inter-state relations, it is a comprehensive concept that entails the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the realization of integral development, the promotion of equality, non-discrimination, tolerance and dialogue, and the guarantee of justice, rule of law and accountability. This has been made crystal clear by art. 2 of the 2016 Declaration on the Right to Peace, which calls on States to "respect, implement and promote equality and non-discrimination, justice and the rule of law, and guarantee freedom from fear and want as a means to build peace *within* and *between* societies" (emphasis added).

On this issue, States should start to back words with deeds because we cannot afford to waste more time.

Therefore, we urge all Member States, which bear the primary responsibility for the international order, to make an even greater effort to ensure peace in the world. It is on the basis of art. 3 of the Declaration on the Right to Peace, which calls for "appropriate sustainable measures" for its implementation that APG23 encourages all States that do not have yet such an institution to establish a sustainable national infrastructure for peace, namely a Ministry of Peace.

This infrastructure would realize the right to peace and a peaceful social and international order where all human rights can be fully realized, as claimed by art. 28 of the UDHR.

The Ministry of peace should be a flexible structure that responds to the needs of the country concerned, devises and coordinates efforts for pursuing peace, from the local to the international levels. Given the complexity and the multidimensional nature of peace, such a Ministry should tackle a wide range of issues: Human Rights, Alternative Dispute Resolution and Reconciliation, Violence and Conflict Prevention, Peace Culture and Education, and Promotion of Peace Policies.

As stressed during the Intersessional Workshop, injustice, inequalities and disregard for human rights are enemies of peace, thus an effective Ministry of Peace should promote and coordinate policies and actions that ensure that everybody is treated fairly and enjoys his/her human rights.

Almost all speakers underlined the centrality of culture and education in preventing violence and in sustaining peace. For example, during the meeting, it was clearly reminded that "the right to peace and the culture of peace are two sides of the same coin" and that "education is the most powerful tool for transforming the world and achieving peace".

On this topic, the Ministry of Peace will be called to build a holistic vision of peace, eradicate exclusion and inequalities in education and invest both financial and human resources in peace culture and education.

The Ministry of Peace could also work on alternative disputes resolution and conflict prevention, for instance, by promoting disarmament and thus diminishing armed conflicts, realising rule of law and protecting people from physical harm as well as, inter alia, inequalities, environmental damages and food insecurity.

APG23 would also like to make the following further recommendations:

1. We appeal to the States to attach greater importance to the theme of peace and to create as soon as possible the optimal conditions for a greater development of human rights and the implementation of the right to peace in their countries;
2. We suggest creating the mandate of a Special Rapporteur or Independent Expert on the right to peace or giving the mandate to OHCHR to mainstream the right to peace, as it already happened with the right to development;
3. We call on States to cooperate more closely with UNESCO and the University for Peace on concrete programmes for the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Peace under the coordination and assistance of the OHCHR;
4. We invite the Office of the High Commissioner (OHCHR) to update as soon as possible the OHCHR webpage and include peace and right to peace under the voice "all human rights issues" as well as to use its territorial offices to work at regional level for implementing the right to peace;
5. We invite States to reduce military spending and invest part of it in plans and projects which would contribute to the fulfilment of art.2 of the Declaration on the Right to Peace as well as to consider carrying out conversion of military industry.

In occasion of the 2018 International Day of Peace (21 September 2018) and given the theme chosen for this year celebration, APG23 and the United Nations-mandated University for Peace have decided to convene a parallel event for launching the proposal for establishing a Ministry of Peace in all countries. Indeed, we cannot think of a more suitable day for holding this parallel event nor of a better way to celebrate the International Day of Peace than gathering all together (Member States, intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and academia) to discuss concrete measures for achieving peace. We invite all Member States, civil society organizations, academia, intergovernmental bodies and other stakeholders to attend our event in room XXV from 13 to 14.30 hours.

During the meeting it will be distributed our paper "Calling for Ministries of Peace all around the World"[1] that provides inputs and suggestions so that each State can consider the proposal, choose the ingredients that better fit its context, tailor them to its own needs and develop its own Ministry of Peace.

[1] This document will be available for download at the following links:
http://www.apg23.org/downloads/files/ONU/calling_for_ministries_of_peace.pdf

Peace is an on-going process: even once it seems to be achieved, we cannot take for granted that it will last forever. We need continuous efforts to maintain it.

Only by building peace day after day, a peace strictly linked to development and the respect for human rights, we can generate peaceful, just and inclusive societies and the world envisaged by art.28 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

As reaffirmed in the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, the joint commitment of all States, civil society organizations and citizens is necessary to reach our goal. It is time to take our commitments seriously and to stand all together to make peace a reality. As said by the UN Secretary General António Guterres "Let us stand up for human rights for all in the name of peace for all."[2]

[2] António Guterres, *The Secretary General – Message for 100-Day Countdown to the International Day of Peace*, 13 June 2018, retrieved from: https://minujusth.unmissions.org/en/secretary-general-%E2%80%93-message-100-day-countdown-international-day-peace

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Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by the World Organisation Against Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

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Please recycle

Crackdown on peaceful dissent and arbitrary detention in Tibetan areas

In 2011, the Chinese government started implementing the so-called "stability maintenance campaign" in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) and other Tibetan villages in Qinghai, Gansu, Sichuan and Yunnan provinces, intensifying social control and surveillance at the grassroots level. Since then, the number of protests resulting in detentions and convictions have increased considerably in Tibetan areas. Reportedly, nighttime and early morning raids, resulting in unlawful deprivations of liberty lacking legal justifications are also on the rise.[1] Most of the detained and prosecuted are local community leaders, environmental activists, and individuals involved in social and cultural activities.[2]

Many of the arbitrarily detained are held incommunicado, placing them outside the protection of the law. Legislative loopholes, including in the People's Republic of China's (PRC) Criminal Procedure Law allow derogations to fundamental legal safeguards and can lead to situations amounting to incommunicado detention or enforced disappearances as defined by international human rights law.[3]

In 2012, Article 73 of the Chinese Criminal Code was amended to allow the so-called "Residential Surveillance at a Designated Location", a form of detention regularly used against individuals suspected to endanger State security. The family of the arrested person should be notified of his/her whereabouts within 24 hours. However, the location and the reason for the arrest is typically not disclosed to the family.[4] In such cases the assigned residence will amount not only to an arbitrary deprivation of liberty, but an unacknowledged deprivation of liberty and in fact a disappearance. Moreover, the Chinese Criminal Code also allows to deny access to legal representation to individuals suspected to endanger State security.[5]

A large majority of those detained are charged with 'endangering state security' and convicted for "leaking state secrets" and "inciting separatism", often on overbroad definitions and interpretations. For instance, in 22 May 2018, the Tibetan language activist Tashi Wangchuk was sentenced to five years in prison for "inciting separatism" for comments he had made to The New York Times criticizing Chinese authorities for their failure to protect and promote Tibetan culture and language.[6]

In January 2018, a former journalist named Tsegon Gyal was sentenced to three years in prison, also for "inciting separatism", reportedly in connection to a social media post in which he criticized the government of China for failing to genuinely promote its policy of "ethnic unity".[7] Tsegon Gyal was held in pre-trial detention for more than a year without access to legal representation. Already in April 2017, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention had ruled that the deprivation of liberty of Mr. Gyal was arbitrary and had urged for his immediate release.[8] The decision of the Working Group remains thus unimplemented.

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[1] Relentless: Detention and Prosecution of Tibetans Under China's 'Stability Maintenance' Campaign, Human Rights Watch, May 2016, available at: https://www.hrw.org/report/2016/05/22/relentless/detention-and-prosecution-tibetans-under-chinas-stability-maintenance and Inevitable Imprisonment: Special Report on Arbitrary Detention in Tibet, TCHRD, May 2017, available at http://tchrd.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Inevitable-Imprisonment_-Arbitrary-Detention-in-Tibet.pdf

[2] Ibid.

[3] Committee Against Torture, Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of China, 3 February 2016, CAT/C/CHN/CO/5, para. 14, 15, and Caster, M. (2017). The People's Republic of the Disappeared: Stories from inside China's system for enforced disappearances. Safeguard Defenders.

[4] Ibid. CAT, para 14.

[5] Ibid.

[6] A Tibetan Tried to Save His Language. China Handed Him 5 Years in Prison, New York Times, 22 May 2018, available at: https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/22/world/asia/tibetan-activist-tashi-wangchuk-sentenced.html

[7] Prominent former political prisoner Tsegon Gyal sentenced to three years on charge of 'inciting separatism', TCHRD, 18 February 2018, available at: http://tchrd.org/prominent-former-political-prisoner-tsegon-gyal-sentenced-to-three-years-on-charge-of-inciting-separatism/

[8] UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention at its 78th session, 19-28 April 2017, 11 August 2017, A/HRC/WGAD/2017/4, available at: https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Detention/Opinions/Session78/A_HRC_WGAD_2017_4.pdf

Reports indicate the existence of numerous 'legal education' centres, in which people are arbitrarily detained for unspecified periods and forced to study Chinese laws and policies, watch pro-government propaganda videos and renounce their ethnic and religious identities.[9] There are reports and allegations of detainees in these centres being subjected to torture, and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including sexual abuse.[10] The existence of such centres in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) and elsewhere raises questions over the veracity of PRC's claim that it fully abolished the 'Re-education Through Labour' system (Ch: *laojiao*) in 2013.[11]

In April this year, 30 individuals were beaten and arbitrarily detained after protesting against plans to mine Sebtra Zagyen, a sacred mountain in Shakchu (Ch: Shaqu) Town in Diru (Ch: Biru) County, Nagchu (Ch: Naqu) Prefecture, TAR. Protests were triggered by the enforced disappearance of a village leader who had challenged an official order forcing villagers to sign a document allowing local government authorities to carry out mining at the sacred mountain.[12] The project may have devastating consequences on the local environment and biodiversity, undermining the availability of drinking water for local residents. At the time of writing, there is no available information on the conditions of the 31 villagers, due to a clampdown on information.

Torture allegations remain frequent in the PRC. In the last Concluding Observations of the Committee Against Torture (CAT)'s review of China, the Committee stated that it "remains seriously concerned over consistent reports indicating that the practice of torture and ill-treatment is still deeply entrenched in the criminal justice system, which overly relies on confessions as the basis for convictions".[13] The Committee also expressed serious concerns over credible allegations of torture cases in the Tibetan areas and the excessive use of force therein.[14] Domestic legislation and the lack of independent domestic remedies or international oversight enable unlawful and arbitrary detention and detention conditions that may amount to torture,[15] including the use of solitary confinement as a "management method" and not as a last resort.[16] There are also worrying allegations of deaths in custody as a result of torture.[17]

Recommendations:

In light of this situation, we call on the **Human Rights Council** to urge the **Government of PRC** to:

- Immediately end the abuses and violence against peaceful dissenters in Tibetan areas as well as the use of all forms of unlawful detention;
- Ensure that every person is granted access to legal representation and that the families are notified of the reasons for arrest and of the whereabouts of their relatives within 24 hours from the arrest;
- Ensure respect for fair trial standards to every person including people charged with 'endangering state security' and abolish the system of "Residential Surveillance at a Designated Location" without notification and legal representation for national security reasons;
- Urgently implement the decisions of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, release and drop all charges against Tsegon Gyal, Tashi Wangchuk and all other individuals who have been arrested arbitrarily and who are still in detention;
- Immediately disclose the fate and whereabouts of Markor village leader, Mr. Karma, disappeared in connection with the Sebtra Zagyen mining project and drop charges and release the 30 villagers detained;

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[9] China : Free Xinjiang « Political Education » Detainees, Human Rights Watch, available at: https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/09/10/china-free-xinjiang-political-education-detainees

[10] Tibetan monk's account reveals torture and sexual abuse in China's 'political re-education' centres, TCHRD, 28 May 2018, available at: http://tchrd.org/tibetan-monks-account-reveals-torture-and-sexual-abuse-rampant-in-chinas-political-re-education-centres/

[11] Extrajudicial detention still a major issue despite RTL abolition, TCHRD, 29 December 2013, available at: http://tchrd.org/extrajudicial-detention-still-a-major-issue-despite-rtl-abolition/

[12] Village leader among 31 Tibetans detained for opposing mining at sacred mountain, TCHRD, 14 May 2018, available at: http://tchrd.org/village-leader-among-31-tibetans-detained-for-opposing-mining-at-sacred-mountain/

[13] Committee Against Torture, Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of China, 3 February 2016, CAT/C/CHN/CO/5, para. 20.

[14] Committee Against Torture, Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of China, 3 February 2016, CAT/C/CHN/CO/5, para. 40, 41.

[15] Ibid. CAT, para. 7, 10, 12, 16, 18 and 22.

[16] Ibid. CAT, para. 26.

[17] Ibid. CAT, para 24.

- Abolish the 'legal education' centres and ensure full compliance with international human rights standards;
- End the practice of torture or ill-treatment and fully implement the recommendations of the UN CAT in all regions;
- Systematically investigate all allegations of torture and other forms of ill-treatment and arbitrary detention wherever they occur, prosecute and punish the perpetrators and provide redress to the victims.